

## Natural Resources Conservation Service Invests More Than \$48.6 Million for Technical Service Providers in Fiscal 2004

### *\$45 Million Targeted for Fiscal 2005*

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) obligated more than \$48.6 million in fiscal year 2004 to ensure landowners received the technical assistance necessary to help them reach their conservation goals. NRCS obligated these funds through various agreements and contracts. Dollars dedicated to a contract or agreement will be paid once the technical services are completed.

Technical service providers expand the agency's conservation capacity, allowing it to provide more effective and efficient services to landowners who are working to improve conservation. The 2002 Farm Bill expanded the availability of technical assistance to producers by encouraging the use of these providers, which include private businesses, non-profit organizations, and public agencies.

### Fiscal 2004 Funding for Technical Service Providers

Technical Service Provider Entity Type	Funds Obligated, by Fiscal Year	
	2004	2003
Private Sector	\$27,385,019	\$7,831,236
State Agencies	\$8,331,579	\$5,058,401
Conservation Districts	\$6,179,880	\$9,485,280
Non-Governmental Organizations	\$3,009,106	\$637,171
Universities	\$2,133,550	\$433,047
RC&Ds	\$907,683	\$325,300
Federal Government	\$307,345	\$0
Local Governments	\$298,846	\$1,884
Tribal Governments	\$69,395	\$127,990
Grand Total	\$48,622,402	\$23,900,310

### Fiscal Year 2005 Funding for Technical Service Providers

Funds for fiscal year 2005 reflect the modest cuts NRCS' programs have received. NRCS' expects to invest \$45 million into its technical service provider process this fiscal year. In fiscal year 2004, the agency exceeded its goal by more than \$8.6 million.